

Issued

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8 September 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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SUBJECT: Introductory Meeting with Messrs. Latimer, O'Neil,
and Berry, House Permanent Select Committee on
Intelligence (HPSCI) Staff [redacted]

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1. On 7 September 1983 [redacted], Chief, House
Liaison, Office of Legislative Liaison, and [redacted] met
with:

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Mr. Thomas K. Latimer, HPSCI Staff Director
Mr. Michael J. O'Neil, HPSCI Chief Counsel
Mr. Steven Berry, HPSCI Counsel for Subcommittee
on Legislation

The purpose of the meeting was to introduce [redacted] to
the senior HPSCI staff and to explain my agenda and intended
approach to my responsibilities. [redacted]

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2. We represented my agenda to be Directorate for
Administration issues in the largest sense, with initial and
probably primary focus on any and all personnel management/
employee benefit, entitlement, and/or allowance issues. We
cited as examples the issues of Social Security supplemental
retirement, potential dual retirement system contributions
(Social Security and Civil Service) for employees hired on
or after 1 January 1984, and recently introduced proposed
changes to the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program
(FEHBP). We then spent some time distinguishing between
broad federal employee issues, such as pay from more
narrowly defined CIA issues such as CIARDS. We then went
on to explain why I am interested in both. [redacted]

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3. On my next visit with Messrs. Latimer and O'Neil I
will expand upon my non-personnel management agenda (i.e.,
large system developments underway in various of the DDA
offices including SAFE, CAMS II, MERCURY; and other major
issues such as CIA office space requirements--principally
the new building). I did not deem it appropriate to unload
too broad an array of issues at our initial introductory
session. [redacted]

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4. We explained to Mr. Latimer and the others that we wanted to work with the HPSCI, and through it, with other appropriate committees in the House, in attempting to get a handle on and develop an understanding of Congressional initiatives concerning supplemental retirement plans and any other initiatives introduced on the Hill that would affect CIA employee allowances, entitlements, and benefits. We mentioned that the DCI and DDCI were both deeply concerned about, and committed to, the welfare of Agency employee allowances and entitlements and cited two phenomena to illustrate their concern--a CIA personnel management referent in the Agency's legislative liaison apparatus (--me) and the recent changes made in the management structure of the Office of Personnel. [redacted]

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5. Messrs. Latimer, O'Neil and Berry appeared to accept my agenda and the reasons behind it at face value and expressed a complete willingness to work with and through me as issues arose in the future. Mike O'Neil asked if I would now be the HPSCI point of contact on DDA issues, personnel management or other, and I said yes, at least initially. [redacted]

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6. Messrs. Latimer and O'Neil took the opportunity of this meeting to send what Peter and I think were intended to be very clear signals to the Agency. Succinctly, they were:

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a. They are irritated that the CIA continues to approach HPSCI at the eleventh hour and plead that HPSCI intercede with another House Committee and amend introduced legislation to address one or another CIA equity. No examples were cited; [redacted]

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b. The HPSCI staff suffers from insufficient information concerning anything that will ultimately impact the Intelligence Community in a legislative context. They feel they either don't hear at all or only hear too late about issues or initiatives gestating either in Office of Management and Budget (OMB) or within the Community (in our case, in the CIA). They want to be informed more fully, and sooner, than has previously been the case; [redacted]

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c. As a follow-on to the point immediately above, they indicated that the HPSCI had insufficient resources to be its own eyes and ears on the Hill and in the Administration and would look favorably upon our adding to their knowledge base any time we were able to do so.

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[redacted] and I, will discuss this more fully upon Peter's return from Central America; [redacted]

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d. They commented, upon receiving a classified report from Peter during our meeting, that they are very sensitive both about receiving substantive intelligence and about not receiving same. They cited as an example, about a year ago, discovering the existence of a report they called the CAR (Central America Report) that, when they requested access to it, were told it no longer existed. Clearly, they perceived that we were withholding information from them; [redacted]

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e. They want us to accept a redefinition of the DCI's Community role (my words, not theirs) that includes administrative cognizance of all Community agencies, as well as his more traditional roles of budgetary and substantive collection/production cognizance. As examples, they cited overseas pay and domestic relocation allowance. They source their concerns directly to HPSCI members and, most specifically, Congressman Robinson (R., VA) who, on such issues, will immediately ask whether Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and National Security Agency (NSA) either already enjoy whatever CIA is requesting, or whether they are included in the initiative the CIA is putting forth. While they recognize that we couldn't always come to them (in the case of overseas pay, for example) with a fully coordinated legislative initiative, at least we should report to them where each Community agency stood on the issue. The point boiled down to: ensure that when the DCI requests legislative support he does so in his Community role and not within his more narrowly defined Director, CIA role; and [redacted]

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f. The CIA is only one of many agencies over which the HPSCI exercises oversight. The CIA seems to feel that the Agency is either the only, or the premier, agency and should receive preferential treatment. In fact, they stated it is only one of many and cannot be treated differently. [redacted]

7. Very few examples were cited by Messrs. Latimer and O'Neil as they shared with us their perceptions of our oversight relationship. Peter, Norm, and I, will work through them and revisit each issue as appropriate. [redacted]

[redacted]
Liaison Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

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LD/OLL [redacted] (8 September 1983)

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